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ADRIAN DEWARD

Larry This is Larry Massie interviewing Adrian DeWard in his apartment in Kalamazoo on May 1, 2012.

Adrian Word gets around to other ones, and I had lots of other people that I was in charge of their home grounds and their house, like the Kleinstucks and the Humphreys and Stauters, Ealings, and the whole bunch of them up there in the Oakland Drive area.

Larry So you didn't work exclusively for the Fetzers?

Adrian Yes, I did. Yes, like I say, I had the four boys; Mrs. Fetzer was acquainted with a lot of these people, the Kleinstucks and that. There were a few I didn't have time for, like Love Upjohn. Did you ever hear of her?

Larry Yes.

Adrian Have you ever been at the Director's Hall?

Larry Oh, yes, out on Portage here?

Adrian That's where my wife is. I had to put her in the Alzheimer's [facility] there. But down where the dining room is, you might want to go there sometime. There's a big plaque up there, right next to the dining room door, [with the names] of the people who were involved in giving and working to develop that Heritage community out there. One on that plaque you'd be surprised about is Jud Knapper.

Larry Really, no kidding?

Adrian You know?

Larry Yes.

Adrian He goes to the same church I go to, Richland Bible or Richland Community at Yorkville.

Larry Sure.

Adrian He's a wonderful guy. He worked with Mrs. Fetzter.

Larry On the boards.

Adrian Yes, the development of that, too.

Larry One of my good friends who is dead now was out there. Did you know Sally Appleyard?

Adrian I've heard of the name, but no I don't.

Larry She was on the city council and different things.

Adrian That's where I probably heard.

Larry Tell me: You went to Michigan State, didn't you?

Adrian Yes, right after I was released from the Army. I went there under the GI Bill.

Larry That was a wonderful thing, wasn't it?

Adrian Yes, it was.

Larry I used the GI Bill for my education.

Adrian Yes, that was.

Larry So you were in the Army.

Adrian Yes, in the horse cavalry. I went in the horse cavalry in — I lose sometimes.

Larry Right when the war started?

Adrian No, after I was trained at Fort Riley Camp. Our group was in the 10th Mountain Division, which were being trained for the mules that were carrying supplies into Italy, in the mountains of Italy, and in Burma, China.

Larry No kidding.

Adrian Well, I was in some of the last group of that; we had all of our animals on board ship to go to Italy. We were out [at sea?] three days, and that was about when the war ended in Europe. That was that time when the war — then they took us back, and then I was trained for the invasion of Okinawa.

Larry That was a bad one.

Adrian Yes, but I'll tell you, the Lord didn't want me to go into some [?] Because I trained for it, and then went to California; [we were] waiting for our ship to take [us] for the invasion of Okinawa. I got pneumonia and they left me behind. They went on and were in the invasion, and I had pneumonia and was in the hospital for three weeks. They didn't know what to do with me, so they shipped me back to Kansas. Then I was trained for Japan, but I ended up in Okinawa, four months after the war ended. Somehow the Lord was just helping me going in different directions.

Larry I'll bet you Harry Truman, you think a lot of him, don't you?

Adrian Yes. Then I read the book, The Invasion of Okinawa. There's quite a book on just the invasion.

Larry They lost a lot of lives.

Adrian Yes, and some of those cities were where I was in Okinawa (inaudible).

Larry You were in Okinawa then for a while?

Adrian Yes, I was there almost a year.

Larry I was there in 1965.

Adrian Oh, you were?

Larry Yes, on my way to Vietnam.

Adrian Oh, okay. Yes, you'd be in that group.

Larry Then you got out and used the GI Bill to go to Michigan State and got a degree in what, horticulture?

Adrian Yes. What encouraged me was Mr. Light. I was working at Light's in Richland. There was a nursery there, just on the side where that old brick building is. I guess it's a massage parlor or something just on the other side of Richland. I was working there after I got home from the Army, and he encouraged me to go there. He encouraged a lot of fellows to go there who eventually went into business and did the same thing. John Light was something else.

Larry He made competitors, huh?

Adrian Yes, but he had a lot of wealth, he didn't have to worry. He came from a wealthy family. Dr. Light was a brain surgeon.

Larry Yes, Upjohn Light.

Adrian I couldn't tell you. You'd probably know.

Larry Well, Richard Upjohn Light.

Adrian Yes.

Larry How did you get connected with the Fetzers?

Adrian When I was there [at Richland], I told Mr. Light I was either going to go in business or I would like to get a job at Upjohn's. I applied at Upjohn's, but in the meantime Mr. Fetzer was looking for a person to do his gardening. That was when he started TV was the first of April, 1950. He wanted me then to be able to go to those different sites and take care of them.

Larry Oh, the different [stations?].

Adrian I had an interview at his house, sitting in his parlor and I asked him what he would offer me per hour, and he told me. I said, "I'm starting to have a family. I just can't do it."

Larry Yes, it was low.

Adrian Yes, it was low. About two weeks later he called me again and he said, "Maybe we can negotiate something." He said, "Would you meet me at the house?" Mrs. Fetzer was setting there in that settee, and he was over there, and we were talking about it.

We finally came to an agreement, so that's when I started, first of April, 1950; that was after that winter that was so bad in March, 1950. I was at Light's, we went out to dig trees, and there wasn't a flake of snow on the ground; then all of a sudden, great big ones started coming down, the wind started blowing, and I had to stay at the nursery there at the building overnight. I couldn't get home, it was so bad.

Larry It was that quick.

Adrian That quick, the snow started there.

Larry Now were you responsible for other property other than at the house?

Adrian Yes. Then he and I were responsible for the development of the Institute on KL Avenue.

Larry Oh, were you?

Adrian Yes. When Mr. Fetzer sold all his properties, he became very, very wealthy. I asked him about developing around the tower there. Have you been down at the Institute?

Larry Oh, yes.

Adrian Where the cooling tower is around the obelisk?

Larry Uh-huh.

Adrian I said, "I'd like to make that into a Japanese garden area." Of course, they have a board, and I guess they talked it over. I told them about what it would cost and he said, "Go ahead," and so we did that. I did the work with Light's, and we got an award for that.

Larry That's beautiful.

Adrian And for some of the other development around the flagpole and around the dining room area. Now the new part that was built on—

Larry The Seasons?

Adrian I was gone. The Seasons. I wasn't there during that development.

Larry Did you ever hear of the story about when they were first setting that up, they came in and they asked the spirits to let them — they weren't going to cut down trees and move things?

Adrian Right.

Larry But then they built that road up on top of the hill, to put in the saucer; some things happened as a result of that, because they didn't talk to the spirits. Did you ever hear that?

Adrian Oh, yes. They had the garden down in the lower level there. Did you ever go down those steps?

Larry Yes.

Adrian Yes, I helped with another fellow, Fred Colbert, and I put those steps in down in that area; I sodded all of that down there. Down there they had stones around for meditation.

Larry Oh, yes.

Adrian If you believed it. One particular time [Mr. Fetzer and I] were out in back of his house there, and he was walking around. This was after he started having heart trouble.

Larry In the 70's.

Adrian Yes. We were talking about meditation and that, and I said, "Well, that stone bench there in the rose garden, I've done a lot of meditation there." He said, "Well, so have I." We got to talking about things disappearing, and he looked up at the sky, and there was a cloud up there, not very big. He pointed up to it and he said, "Now, Adrian, meditate on that cloud and that will disappear." Well, I did, and it did disappear. He said, "Oh, I know what you're thinking. It was going to go anyway. It was a vapor cloud and it was going to disappear anyway," but he said, "No, we both made that disappear."

Larry Oh, with the power of meditation.

Adrian Right. Well, anyway.

Larry He was interested in a lot of that stuff. Did he ever talk to you about anything?

Adrian A little bit, but Mr. Fetzer was all business. You could be in his yard like we were, and talked maybe for 10 or 15 minutes, and then that was it.

Larry Oh, he had to get busy.

Adrian Oh, yes. Or you went into his office to talk to him. You didn't stay there and talk about your families and all of this. You did the business that you went in there for. That was all. You could always tell when he was through talking to you, because we did some of the things that we found down at the four towers in Parchment, you know, the radio towers.

I was in charge of that. I went in there and talked about finding this big rock in there that was shaped like a tool that the Indians would use to break rock. After we talked for a little while, you knew when he wanted you to leave. He'd start shuffling papers on his desk. He wouldn't tell you to leave but you knew when to go.

Larry When the conversation was over. Were you in charge of that tower out by Gull Lake or Gun Lake?

Adrian Gun Lake, yes, that area. Yes, until I was transferred. A couple of years. I remember when he talked to the guy from Domino's that he sold the Tigers to.

Larry Monahan.

Adrian Yes, Tom Monahan. I know when he was negotiating. They'd sit on his back porch. Of course, me doing the garden work. Somebody strange was there talking to him, but I found out later it was Tom Monahan.

Larry Yes. Did he ever talk to you about reincarnation?

Adrian Not directly, no, but I knew that he did believe it, because I read some of his books. He had a couple of books he gave out.

Larry His genealogy.

Adrian One with his family.

Larry His genealogy.

Adrian They gave them to us employees, associates.

Larry So he never really confided in you, except the meditation.

Adrian No. Actually, most of my dealings were with Mrs. Fetzer. It even came to a point where she was, of course, employed by the Fetzer group; she then would consult me with a lot of the property areas, what can be done. So most of my association was with Mrs. Fetzer. A lot more.

Larry Tell me about her.

Adrian Oh, she was a beautiful person.

Larry That's what I understand.

Adrian Yes, there aren't very many, and a lot of things that happened in Kalamazoo were a result of her and some of the other wealthy women; they would get together and talk over different things, like Love Upjohn and Mary Kleinstuck and those. They worked together on a lot of [projects?], and she was busy all the time. She was flipping here and there.

Larry Was she?

Adrian Oh, yes. You know the house is there, there's a curve there to go out. She'd go around that curve; and I told her, "Someday you're going to go around that curve and hit somebody if you don't slow down." And she said, "Well, I only have one speed," she said.

Larry Fast.

Adrian Then she'd put on her brakes up there at Oakland Drive, but she would be flipping all over.

Larry Did she drive a Cadillac, too?

Adrian Yes, until she had an accident. Later, when her mind was going, I drove her to doctors and that sort of thing, yes. But she was real good about it. We went out to lunch with her nurse. She had around-the-clock nurses at the last, and we'd go out to lunch because the nurse had to be with her. The nurse couldn't drive so I drove them to different [places?]. We'd go down there to the restaurant at the end of Whites Road there and have lunch. When we'd leave, we would say, "Well, we'll see you later." She'd say, "Yes, we'll see you later alligator." She had a lot of—

Larry Real sense of humor.

Adrian Oh, yes, and used very good psychology. She was a very smart person. You could tell her mind was going 90 miles an hour most of the time. But she loved her gardens, and she loved Saturday morning after breakfast to come out. I worked most every Saturday morning when it was nice to work outdoors, and we'd work together in the garden. She loved to go out and pull weeds and tie up plants because we had a big perennial garden, that whole back part there down at their house I had the garden. I had lots of roses. She always had roses.

Larry Different varieties.

Adrian After I retired, there was a certain fellow at the Institute who thought it was costing too much to take care of that place. What bothered me the most was after she passed away, Mr. Fetzer came out and he said to me, "Adrian, I want this place taken care of just as if Mrs. Fetzer was here."

Larry Really?

Adrian That bothered me, because it wasn't. I did go there after I retired a few times to do a few things, but there was a fellow at the Institute who decided that everything was costing too much, and so they tore up all the bentgrass. It was just like a golf course green. In fact, a lot of her lady friends that she had for luncheons would take their shoes and socks off and walk out to the gardens. Lots of roses, roses and lilies were her favorite plants. Then we had lots of them and I always picked roses, put them in a vase, and put them in a refrigerator. After that she always had a vase of roses on her piano. She had a beautiful piano in her house, that's out at the Institute. She played that quite often. I'd hear her playing.

Larry I think she got her degree in music at the Seventh Day Adventist college, Andrews.

Adrian Andrew University. Her mother used to come there, too, and stay with her. When Mr. Fetzer would go away, her mother would come, Mrs. Yeager. She was a sweet person, too. I might tell you about a tale.

I came to work one morning up there, and there was an old gentleman out in the back as I was going to the tool house. I always went to the tool house and opened it up and got my stuff out. But there was an old gentleman back there, and he was walking around with his hands behind his back and looking around. I said, "Excuse me, sir, are you looking for somebody?" He said, "Oh, no." He said, "I'm Mr. Fetzer's stepfather."

Larry Stepfather, no kidding.

Adrian Yes, he was always outdoors, because he chewed tobacco. He'd sit and listen to the Tigers with my car door open and the radio on, and he'd spit tobacco out. That kind of scared me to see that guy back there. I thought maybe they got a replacement for me.

I was offered a good job at Upjohn. She found out about it, and she came out in the yard and shook her finger at me, and she said, "You know, Adrian, you'll never make as much at Upjohn's as you will here."

Larry Did they give you a raise?

Adrian I don't remember if they did or not at that time. After I was transferred into the Institute, I was told that when I was hired there, I was hired by the Foundation originally, but I was paid by Fetzer Broadcasting. I thought I was working for Channel 3 and the radio station; but I was told later that I was actually employed by the Foundation, which owned all that property.

Larry Oh, okay.

Adrian The Fetzer house and all of that was owned by the Fetzer Foundation, which later became Fetzer Institute. But I don't know how true it is, unless they or Mr. Fetzer told me. If he told me that, then I'd believe it; but this one person was in the office where he would know.

Larry Now did Rhea ever talk to you when you were gardening about John and their relationship?

Adrian No, not really. She didn't. I really wasn't there much when both of them were together. He always even went to work on Saturday mornings.

Larry Yes, he was a hard worker.

Adrian Yes, always busy going to the office.

Larry We've seen some—

Adrian You didn't have to have her tell you those things. You could see them, like all of those wealthy people I worked with, the Kleinstucks and the Humphreys and all, you could tell how they got along with one another. You didn't have to talk to them. You knew them.

Larry So they had a good marriage.

Adrian Yes, I think so, but he was in charge.

Larry I see.

Adrian Oh, yes. When she wanted to move a piece of furniture somewhere other than where it was in the house, and he said no, that was—

Larry That was the law.

Adrian Yes, that was.

Larry We've looked at some diary entries that she left, and she experimented a little bit with some of the fortune tellers, and things like that.

Adrian I used to take her to Dr. Zolen for those séances.

Larry Oh, really?

Adrian Oh, yes.

Larry When was that?

Adrian That was when she started with the Alzheimer's, back when it first started. He tried lots of things. He even had some doctors from Texas come up and do some things with her, but there was Dr. Zolen.

Larry And his wife Margaret, too, right?

Adrian Pardon?

Larry And Dr. Zolen's wife, Margaret?

Adrian Yes, that's the one. Yes, it was her that—

Larry That did the séances?

Adrian Yes, with candles; I could hear ‘em because I was in the room right next to it.

Larry They were communicating with departed people?

Adrian Yes. Well, I don’t know if it was people or not. She said, “Just think about one instance, think about your being out on a golf course.” Mrs. Fetzer played some golf later in her life, and she practiced out in the yard. I had a net out there where she could.

Mrs. Zolen was telling her, “Close your eyes and think: Now, do you remember when you were on the 17th green on this particular day that you got a birdie on that hole?” Then I would wait a minute. “Oh yes, I do remember.” But, if without that thinking, deep thinking, it was believed that she wouldn’t remember. She was in the process of losing her memory and it was so sad to see her.

Larry Oh, it is.

Adrian I used to go to Director’s Hall. She’s where my wife was. Mrs. Fetzer was there at Director’s Hall; I’d pick Mr. Fetzer up at the airport, and that’s the first place he wanted to go, to see Rhea down at Director’s Hall.

Larry I understand sometimes he’d lay down in the bed with her.

Adrian Oh, I didn’t know that, but the maids were—

Larry To comfort her.

Adrian Or Mrs. Lee probably would know. Mrs. Lee and Mrs. Fetzer were quite close. They did quite a few things together.

Larry Carl Lee’s wife, Winifred.

Adrian Yes, Winnie. Yes, they did.

Larry I think for some reason Carl and John had disagreements when the station was being sold, I think.

Adrian I don’t know anything about those things. All I know is that Art Covell was the chief engineer; when Art had to go in the service, then Carl Lee took over and there was always dissension between Art Covell and Carl Lee.

Larry Oh, was there?

Adrian Oh, yes. Art Covell was my boss. I was in the engineering department at the Fetzer.

Larry Oh, I see.

Adrian So he was my boss.

Larry Carl was an engineer, too.

Adrian Well, he was a painter to begin with.

Larry A painter?

Adrian That's what he did. He and his brother painted houses.

Larry Back in the 30's?

Adrian That would be in the late 30's, because Carl I think is eight years older than I am. I think he's still living.

Larry Yes, he is, yes.

Adrian Carl Gunther. We have alumni meetings every other month, but I haven't been there for over a year, because I've had all kinds of health problems.

Larry I'm sorry to hear that.

Adrian Open heart surgery, then I my vertebrae was just ruptured in my back.

Larry Painful. How old are you now, Adrian?

Adrian I'm 85.

Larry Well, I'd say you're doing pretty good.

Adrian Yes, I'm doing pretty good.

Larry Yep, good days and bad days probably.

Adrian Yes.

Larry Everybody does. Yes, I saw Carl Gunther not too long ago, too.

Adrian Yes, he keeps track of different ones in that alumni group.

Larry When do you meet, your alumni group?

Adrian Every other month, on the first Tuesday, at the University Roadhouse we meet.

Larry University Roadhouse. Maybe I should see if I could come to that.

Adrian Yes, every other month. That would be nice. I haven't been there for a whole year, because when my wife had some serious problems with Alzheimer's, my son wanted us to [move?]. We lived on H Avenue 62 years.

Larry Wow.

Adrian He wanted us to move down with him. He got a job at Columbus State University, so we sold everything and went down there. It was the worst decision we ever made.

Larry Oh, yes. To leave your home.

Adrian Live with your family, too, don't work. There's 25 years difference.

Larry Different ideas.

Adrian Timing was off, got up different, everything was different, eating different. After six months I got a mover and we moved back here. Then we lived in Spring Manor Apartments out there, until I had to take my wife to Director's Hall. That's a real nice place.

Larry It is nice.

Adrian Oh, yes. I've been in two different nursing homes and Director's Hall was like Taj Mahal. I'm so glad Judith is there. You don't see any pictures around, because there's just too many memories. I get flashbacks of what we used to do, and how she liked certain pictures. The picture I've got is her and her cousin there, and she's an angel really, because she never worked. She was taking care of people all the time. Even a blind lady she took care of. She was a gem.

Larry Did you ever go out to Arizona?

Adrian Oh, yes.

Larry Oh, you worked the garden out there, too?

Adrian Yes, a little bit, not much. I mainly took cars out there and left them, and brought one back and a truck.

Larry Oh, okay. Drove it out.

Adrian Then one other time I flew back and left the car out there.

Larry Were you still working for John when he went to Hawaii?

Adrian No, I had retired when he went there. I had just retired.

Larry In the late 80's?

Adrian Yes, well, '89 or '90. Let's see, it was the first of January 1991. I know when he died, I was down in Texas, and I couldn't get to his funeral. I didn't feel that I wanted to fly back.

Larry Yes, I understand.

Adrian I was on vacation.

Larry Do you know anything about the Hall of Records that they had out there?

Adrian At the Institute?

Larry Yes, with those busts?

Adrian Oh, yes.

Larry Tell me about that.

Adrian That was, as I understand it, his mentors, reading about those people and what they believed in. Then he suggested to have those busts made.

Larry There's a theory that he felt that he had been those people.

Adrian Yes, right.

Larry Reincarnated.

Adrian Yes, right. Well, he was going to be, too.

Larry Yes. He'd been in Atlantis, but you heard these things from other people probably.

Adrian I was there when they built that building. I even took Mrs. Fetzer out there, but we parked across the lake and she just wanted to look across the lake. I said, "What's so interesting across the lake?" "Well, I wonder what's being developed over there," she said. They were making the load-in at that time.

Larry She didn't know?

Adrian She knew, but it was supposed to be more or less a secret, I guess. I understand from different ones that that property would never have been bought if they had known that the Institute was going to put a sanitorium down there. I've heard

different things about that building. What did they do down there? It looks like that's where crazy people should go. I heard so many different things. She knew what was going in because they had a model at the house.

Larry Oh, they did?

Adrian Yes, the architect had a model made of the building. After a while she did tell me. She said, "This room is going to be the meditation room," and that they had a room that was just for meditation. There was no furniture in it.

Larry They still do.

Adrian Yes, I've sat in there a few times.

Larry Listen though, by the time they were building that, her mind would've started to go.

Adrian Oh, yes. I had to drive her. She couldn't drive. There was even one time I took her back to the house, and she said, "I don't live here. Why are we coming here?" Of course, the nurse was with me, and it was up to her to help her. But that wasn't her house. My wife has gone through that, too.

Larry My dad went through that, too.

Adrian It's the worst disease there is.

Larry Yes, it is.

Adrian I'd rather her have cancer, and know she's only going to live a few months, really, because there's just a gradual—

Larry You're not yourself.

Adrian She doesn't even know when I came, the last time I came.

Larry Yes. That's too bad. I'm sorry for you that you have to go through that.

Adrian Have you've been writing about other women, too?

Larry If you know anything about them, I'd like to hear it.

Adrian Yes, I sure do. I was actually in charge of the Kleinstuck residence for over 25 years.

Larry Oh, really?

Adrian Yes, I had different ones do the mowing, because they had a bentgrass lawn too. Of course, Mrs. Fetzner and Mrs. Kleinstuck were very close friends. Mrs. Ealing, who lived kitty-corner across the street on Spruce Drive, was Mr. Kleinstuck's sister. I also worked there somewhat.

I had most of those things done by my boys or someone else, but I was in charge of doing the gardens each spring. Mrs. Kleinstuck, she always liked begonias that would float in water for the dining room table; I had a couple of dozen begonia plants for her. She'd go out and get those. Mrs. Humphrey is Mrs. Kleinstuck's daughter and they had a big house on Gull Lake.

Larry Humphrey Manufacturing.

Adrian Yes, Bobby Humphrey's president now. That little kid, I knew him when he was just five years old, that little squirt; he got away with murder that little kid. He was a rascal.

Larry Was he? Well, he turned out okay.

Adrian I would not call him Bob. He was always Bobby. He'd pick green pears off the tree that they had there, and he'd throw them at the house at the lodge. Once in a while it'd miss and go through a window. A few days later I'd go back, and the window was put back in. They had a couple dogs at the lake. Their summer place at Gull Lake was right near Humphrey's Point there. It was a beautiful, beautiful place. He inherited it, of course, from his dad. And Mrs. Humphrey, her gardens were not for show as such. Her gardens were for having flowers in the house.

Larry I see.

Adrian I had a big cutting garden for her, just for cutting flowers that would be—

Larry Gladiolas and things like—

Adrian They were coming in from spring through the fall, peony beds I had.

Larry Wow. You've really had some experiences in horticulture.

Adrian Oh, yes. I had my kids working out there, too. I had four boys and they all wanted cars, so I said, "You gotta earn it."

Larry Good.

Adrian But they learned. Of all the places I worked and all the people I had associated with, Mr. and Mrs. Humphrey showed me the most love towards each other than any of the others. He just adored that lady, and when he died, she just went overboard. She started drinking.

Larry That happens sometimes.

Adrian They would go out to the lake there on Saturday, and as soon as they got there, they would get in the boat and go zipping across the lake, and he had his arm around her, like they were newlyweds.

Larry Was this Gull Lake?

Adrian Yes. Just like they were newlyweds.

Larry Where did you grow up, Adrian?

Adrian I was born on Whites Road, right across from the 17th tee off. You know where that is, right there along Whites Road?

Larry Oh, yes.

Adrian That 17th hole? Our house was right across the street from there.

Larry That was celery growing country, wasn't it? No?

Adrian Not there, not on Whites Road. Down Bronson Boulevard, down where the Broadcast House was.

Larry That was celery, wasn't it?

Adrian Yes, that was down in there. Pansies, yes. Yes, right across from there. Us kids—that's how we got our baths. We'd walk across the country club and take baths in the lake, Whites Lake, or in the sprinklers they'd have out there on Saturday night. We were right between the Crockets and the Campbells. Did you ever hear of Charlie Campbell?

Larry Yes.

Adrian Carolyn Campbell?

Larry Uh-huh, yes.

Adrian That brown house. If you go out of the country club road, there's a brown house. If you kept going across, you'd run into that brown house there. That's where Charlie Campbell lived and we lived. Crocket lived up Whites Road a ways, and our farm was right in between there. The Campbells bought a cow, then chickens, so that they would have fresh things; that was during the Depression. If it wasn't for them, we'd have probably died.

Larry They helped you out with this.

Adrian Oh, yes. Us kids would go out. She had rosebushes, too, and kids would go out in the pasture and get cow manure in a basket and she'd give us 10 cents for a basketful. We'd put it in our wagon and take it up. Ten cents was—

Larry That was something, yes.

Adrian Oh, yes. You could get a big candy bar for a penny. They didn't have but only one child, and that was Betty Taylor, married a Taylor. They built that big white house right next door. Do you envision that big white house that sits up there?

Larry Yes.

Adrian That was Merrill Taylor. He was also president of the bank after Kleinstuck, I think it was, before him. I worked for all of them, Mr. Campbell and then was Merrill Taylor and then Hubbard Kleinstuck, and there was another one. Those three I worked for. I was born right there; my mother died when I was nine and a half, and I was the next to the last of nine kids.

Larry Wow.

Adrian My dad had to remarry, because there were still four of us siblings there, still at home. He married a lady from Grand Rapids, and we moved up there. Mr. Taylor, Merrill Taylor, bought our house, our farm. That was in 1937. You know what my dad got for that farm? \$8,000.

Larry How many acres?

Adrian It was five acres.

Larry Oh, that was a lot of money then.

Adrian \$8,000 was a fortune.

Larry Oh, yes. Buy a new car for \$300, \$400.

Adrian He married this lady from Grand Rapids and we moved up there; he bought a car and a grocery store, believe it or not, right on Division Avenue. (Inaudible), right across the street Fred Meijer opened a store, not called Meijer's. It was called Food City; my dad could go across the street and buy cheaper than he could in a wholesale place.

Us kids used to run across there when he ran out of certain things, and certain cans could be delivered, all that stuff. Back in those days, you delivered groceries

to a person's house. Refrigerator with the cheese or whatever, and the rest on the counter. Yes, a lot of memories.